REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-36 are pending in this application. Claims 17-36 are cancelled by this reply. Claim 1 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1. Further, new independent claim 37 has been added by this reply.

Specification

The Applicant respectfully notes that the specification was amended to insert the serial numbers of the cross-referenced applications in the response mailed on November 24, 2004. Accordingly, this objection is moot.

Claim Amendments

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that: (i) a temporary local workspace is created on the client; (ii) the remote workspace populates the temporary local workspace with selected data; and (iii) the local workspace is updated with data in the temporary local workspace. Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found, for example, in Figures 4A, 5A, and 5B in the instant specification. Dependent claims 2, 7, 8, and 10-16 have been amended to address the antecedent basis issues arising from amending independent claim 1.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 7, 12, 14-19, and 31-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent Number 6,151,606 ("Mendez") and in view of applicant-admitted prior art ("AAPA"). Claims 17-19 and 31-36 have been cancelled by this reply. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot with respect to the cancelled claims. To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to a method for propagating changes from a remote workspace (*i.e.*, a workspace accessible by the server) to a local workspace (*i.e.*, a workspace accessible the client) using a temporary local workspace (*i.e.*, a temporary workspace that is located on the client). The method includes creating a temporary local workspace, obtaining selected data from the remote workspace, storing the selected data in the temporary local workspace, and updating the local workspace using the data in the temporary local work space.

Turning to the rejection, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness "...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (*See* MPEP §2143.03). Further, "all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." (*See* MPEP §2143.03). The Applicant respectfully asserts that the references, when combined, fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of amended independent claim 1.

Specifically, the Examiner has admitted that Mendez fails to teach creating a temporary workspace (*See* Office Action mailed April 8, 2005). Further, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the AAPA does not teach that which Mendez lacks. Specifically, the AAPA (*i.e.*, paragraphs [0003] – [0007] of the instant specification) discusses the conventional methods used propagate changes from a child workspace (*i.e.*, a local workspace) to a parent workspace (*i.e.*, a remote workspace). More specifically, the AAPA notes that a number of child workspaces may be created where each of the child workspaces is a copy of the parent workspace. The AAPA then proceeds to note that such child workspaces may be individually modified and then, at some point, merged together with the result of the merger subsequently being used to update the parent workspace. However, there is no teaching of an intermediate temporary workspace that co-exists with both the child workspaces and the parent workspace. Rather, the AAPA only teaches the presence of two types of workspaces, namely a child workspace and a parent workspace.

Moreover, evening assuming *arguendo* that the AAPA teaches a temporary workspace, neither Mendez nor the AAPA teach or suggest using three distinct types of workspaces (*i.e.*, remote workspaces, local workspaces, and temporary local workspaces) as recited in the claims to propagate changes from a remote workspace to a local workspace. Further, neither Mendez nor the AAPA teach or suggest propagating changes from the remote workspace to the local workspace. Rather, both the AAPA and Mendez only teach propagating changes from the local workspace to the remote workspace.

In view of the above, Mendez and the AAPA, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to show or suggest the present invention as recited amended independent claim 1. Thus, independent claim 1, as amended, is patentable over Mendez and the AAPA. Dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6, 13, and 25-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Mendez and the AAPA, and in further view of U.S. Patent Number 6,098,093 ("Bayeh"). Claims 25-29 have been cancelled by this reply. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot with respect to the cancelled claims. To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Mendez and the AAPA, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claim 1. Further, Bayeh does not teach that which Mendez and the AAPA lack. This is evidenced by the fact that Bayeh is only relied upon to teach "servlets and serlvet engines to facilitate client requests" (*See* Office Action mailed April 8, 2005 p. 5). Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Mendez, the AAPA, and Bayeh. Dependent claims 2-6 and 13 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-11, 20-24, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Mendez and the AAPA, and in further view of U.S. Patent Number 5,878,218 ("Maddalozzo"). Claims 20-24 and 30 have been cancelled by this reply. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot with respect to the cancelled claims. To the extent that this rejection applies to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Mendez, the AAPA, and Bayeh, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the limitations of amended independent claim 1. Further, Maddalozzo does not teach that which Mendez, the AAPA, and Bayeh lack. This is evidenced by the fact that Maddalozzo is only relied upon to teach the use of "filenames and checksums to verify file availability, file difference and checksum differences..." (*See* Office Action mailed April 8, 2005 p. 7). Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Mendez, the AAPA, Bayeh, and Maddalozzo. Dependent claims 8-11 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.
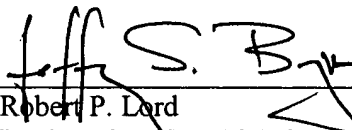
New Claim

New claim 37 is directed to a computer readable medium storing a program for propagating changes from a remote workspace that is accessible by a server to a local workspace that is accessible by a client. The aforementioned program includes software instructions to perform the method recited in amended independent claim 1. Accordingly, claim 37 is allowable for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 16159/010001).

Dated: June 8, 2005   Respectfully submitted,

By _____
Robert P. Lord
Registration No.: 46,479
OSHA · LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant